

3.0 ALTERNATIVES TO THE PROPOSED ACTION

This section describes alternatives to the proposed action including the No Action alternative.

3.1 NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

Under the No Action alternative, DOE would not conduct tank closure demonstrations. The existing tank farm operation and management procedures would be maintained. This alternative would be consistent with continuing to implement the Phased Implementation alternative as selected in the TWRS EIS ROD (62 FR 8693).

3.2 ALTERNATIVES TO THE PROPOSED ACTION

NEPA requires the consideration of reasonable alternatives. An alternative also must meet the purpose and need of the demonstration. The ATCD Project is part of a continuing program that involves research, development, and testing of the closure of tanks. The conduct of demonstration projects by DOE was set forth in the TWRS EIS ROD with the objective of obtaining additional information that would contribute to future decisions on the closure of tank farms. C-106 has been the subject of previous demonstrations concerning retrieval and sampling and analysis. The next step in this process for C-106 is the demonstration of component closure.

Alternatives to the proposed project include using a different tank or increasing the number of tanks that would be used in the demonstration and/or using alternative fill materials. Alternative fill materials would have to be able to meet the characteristic test requirements of a flowable high strength grout.

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